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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/783320 Confirmation No.: 6915
Applicant : Darren Traub et al.
Filing Date : February 20, 2004
Title : SHIM
Group Art Unit : 1771
Examiner : To be assigned
Docket No. : 700065.4002
Customer No. : 34313

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Amendment
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

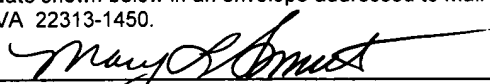
In accordance with 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the items identified in this Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") are brought to the attention of the Office. The items are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. In accordance with the USPTO waiver of the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i), only copies of foreign patent documents and non-patent literature are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

The items identified in this IDS may or may not be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56. The submission thereof by Applicant is not to be construed as an admission that any such patent, publication or other information referred to therein is material or

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
37 CFR §1.8

I hereby certify, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.8, that I have reasonable basis to expect that that this paper or fee (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) would be mailed or transmitted on or before the date indicated with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on the date shown below in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: January 20, 2005


Mary L. Smith

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considered to be material (37 CFR § 1.97(h)), or even qualifies as "prior art" under 35 USC § 102 with respect to this invention unless specifically designated by Applicant as such.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FILING PROVISION:

☒ This IDS is believed to be timely in that it is being submitted under 37 CFR § 1.97(b), that is (1) within three months of the filing date of the application, which is not a continued prosecution application filed under § 1.53(d); or (2) within three months of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR § 1.491; or (3) before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or (4) before the mailing of a first Office action after filing a request for continued examination under § 1.114. Thus, no fee is required.

☒ However, if the undersigned is in error in this regard, Applicant respectfully requests that the Office consider this IDS as filed under 37 CFR § 1.97(c), if applicable, and charge the fee due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) to the deposit account referenced below.

☐ However, if the undersigned is in error in this regard, Applicant respectfully requests that the Office consider this IDS as filed under 37 CFR § 1.97(c), if applicable, and a statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e) is included below, thus no fee is required.

☐ This IDS is being submitted under 37 CFR § 1.97(c), that is after mailing of a first Office action on the merits, but before a Final Action under 37 CFR § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR § 1.311.

☐ The fee due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) is submitted herewith.

☐ A statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e) is included below, thus no fee is required. In the event that this IDS is not received before a Final Action or a Notice of Allowance, then Applicant respectfully requests that the Office consider the filing of these papers to be submitted under 37 CFR § 1.97(d) and charge the fee due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) to the deposit account below.

☐ This IDS is being submitted under 37 CFR § 1.97(d), that is after a Final Action under 37 CFR § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR § 1.311, but before payment

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of the issue fee. A statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e) is included below. The fee due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) is submitted herewith.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(e):

- ☐ Each item contained in this IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.
- ☐ No item contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

PAYMENT AND/OR AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE FEES:

- ☐ A check in the amount of _____ is enclosed for the above fee(s).
- ☐ Please charge _____ to Deposit Account No. **15-0665** for the above fee(s).
- ☒ The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees required by the filing of these papers, and to credit any overpayment to Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe's Deposit Account No. **15-0665**.

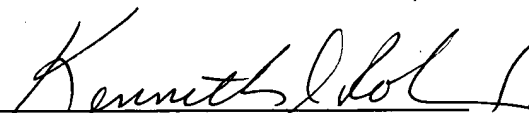
Respectfully submitted,

ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE

LLP

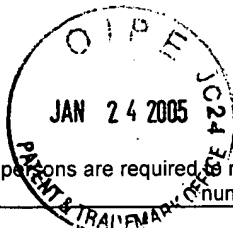
Dated: January 19, 2005

By:


Kenneth S. Roberts
Reg. No. 38,283

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Please type a plus sign (+) in this box ☐ ☒



PTO/SB/08A (10-96)

Approved for use through 10/31/99. OMB 0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/783320
				Filing Date	2/20/2004
				First Named Inventor	Traub
				Group Art Unit	1771
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	700065.4002

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publications of Cited Documents MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code ²		
	AA	6,018,916		Henry	2/1/2000
	AB	2002/0157328	A1	Holder	10/31/2002
	AC	6,230,446	B1	Chalich	5/15/2001
	AD	5,953,862		Earhart et al.	9/21/1999
	AE	5,853,838		Siems et al.	12/29/1998
	AF	5,163,255		Gamba	11/17/1992
	AG	5,054,250		Foss	10/8/1991
	AH	4,281,302		Stegens	7/28/1981
	AI	4,731,965		Jensen	3/22/1988
	AJ	4,526,641		Schriever et al.	7/2/1985
	AK	4,232,068		Hoh et al.	11/4/1980
	AL	2,772,596		Trussell	12/4/1956

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent documents. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.